

What Property Tax Reduction Act Supporters are Saying:

"The State of New York forces an enormous burden onto the backs of its local property taxpayers when it requires counties to pay for a portion of the State's Medicaid bill. If the cost of the Medicaid program were lifted off the backs of our property taxpayers we could cut every homeowner and business's county property taxes by 54 percent," said Rensselaer County Executive Kathy Jimino. "While our state leaders have refused to do what the majority of other states do and pay for their own share of the Medicaid bill, this legislative initiative spearheaded by Congressman John Faso would bring about the tax relief our families and businesses desperately need and deserve."

"I support Congressman Faso's legislation. Medicaid costs are the number one unfunded mandate we receive from the state and it eats up about 40 cents of every property tax dollar we collect here in Westchester," said Westchester County Executive Robert P. Astorino. "Few states share the Medicaid bill with its counties and no state shares as much of it as New York does and yet counties have zero say over the delivery of the program. If Congressman Faso's amendment is enacted into law, it would not only allow for dramatic property tax relief for homeowners, it would force Albany to finally reform the most expensive and fraud-ridden Medicaid program in the nation."

"Congressman Faso's legislation to repeal the Medicaid mandate will greatly benefit homeowners and local businesses by cutting their property taxes," said Delaware County Board of Supervisors Chair Tina Mole. "For too long, Albany has pushed an unfair share of Medicaid costs onto counties. I am grateful to Congressman Faso for keeping his pledge to the 19th District's taxpayers, and I believe that this amendment will finally force Albany politicians to be held accountable for their extravagant spending habits."

"Congressman Faso is on the right track. By eliminating counties' paying for Medicaid it will help counties reduce property taxes, thereby benefiting homeowners and businesses," said Columbia County Board of Supervisors Chairman Matthew Murell. "Congressman Faso's proposed action would force NYS to end a very expensive unfunded mandate imposed on county governments."

"I want to thank Congressman Faso for standing up for Counties across New York State," said Ulster County Legislature Chairman Ken Ronk Jr. "Congressman Faso has a long history of fighting unfunded mandates even back to his time as Minority Leader of the Assembly. In Ulster County Medicaid accounts for roughly half of the County property tax levy. At a time when many politicians in Washington ignore property taxpayers and pass the buck, we are lucky to have Congressman Faso fighting for us."

"Thanks to the leadership of Congressman John Faso, taxpayers across Upstate New York may finally see significant relief from the oppressive burden of high property taxes. For many years, Albany has been shifting the costs of running state programs down onto the shoulders of local governments. And the hard-working men and women of upstate New York end up paying much higher property taxes to support those programs," said Schoharie County Treasurer William Cherry.

"Property taxes in New York State are much too high — period. Those highest-in-the-nation property taxes make us unable to compete with other states when it comes to attracting new businesses, creating new jobs, and they are the reason there are more and more people fleeing New York every year. Congressman Faso's legislation shows true visionary leadership in trying to stem this downward spiral, and will mean that Albany will finally be forced to pay their share of Medicaid costs out of their own budget, rather than shifting those costs down to local property taxpayers," continued Cherry.

"I stand strong behind Congressman Faso and his proposed legislation to lessen the burden on our property taxpayers," said Montgomery County Executive Matthew L. Ossenfort. "This bill strikes at the core structural problem that has driven up property taxes in upstate New York for years. Its passage would result in significant savings to Montgomery County taxpayers struggling with the burden of some of the highest property taxes in the country."

"New York forces more state spending onto local property taxpayers than any state in America. Counties in this state spend three times more on Medicaid than all other counties in America combined," said Dutchess County Executive Marcus J. Molinaro. "This shift of cost crowds out critical local priorities and is the reason property taxes are too high. John Faso has been leading this fight for over 20 years, and now, in just a short time in office, he has produced a solution. His legislation would save us over \$40 million a year enabling massive property tax cuts."